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On March 27, 2003

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

PAUL IRMA ALBERTUS VAN DIJK : Conf. No. 7758
Serial No.: 09/902,047 : Group Art Unit: 1615
Filing Date: July 10, 2001 : Examiner: SIMON J. OH

For: **RETARDATION OF DISCOLORATION OF DICARBOXYLIC ACIDS**

RESPONSE UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the September 27, 2002 Office Action, the time for response being extended by three (3) months, pursuant to the fee charged to the Assignee's Deposit account in the papers submitted herewith, please amend the application as follows and consider the remarks made herein.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-7 without prejudice.

Please amend Claim 9 to read as follows:

A/

9. (Amended) A composition according to Claim 8 wherein the dicarboxylic acid is selected from C₂-C₁₃ dicarboxylic acids and mixtures thereof.